

CANTERBURY PARK

1100 Canterbury Road Shakopee, MN 55379

Polar Plunge Wins \$50,000 Lady Slipper Stakes On Opening Night

69-Day Race Meet Begins With Larger Purses and Enthusiasm

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Shakopee, MN -- Despite a chilly temperature and cloudy sky, 6,478 fans turned out for the first night of a 69-day race meet at Canterbury Park. Polar Plunge won the \$50,000 Lady Slipper Stakes under jockey Juan Rivera. Owned by Camelia Casby of Shakopee, MN and trained by Gary Scherer, Polar Plunge covered six furlongs in 1:11.58 over a sloppy track.

Rivera waited behind the pace setters Happy Hour Honey and Sputey's Cabin before asking the 5-year-old Minnesota bred mare for run in the stretch. She caught Happy Hour Honey just before the wire, winning by three-quarters of a length. Hidden Gold finished third.

"The track was playing for speed and she came and got them," Scherer said. "This is the one." Polar Plunge has now earned \$155,932 in her nine-race career.

Due to a cooperative marketing and purse enhancement agreement reached last year with the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community which owns and operates Mystic Lake Casino Hotel, purses have doubled compared to 2011. The Lady Slipper purse increased from \$35,000 to \$50,000.

Racing resumes Saturday at 1:30 pm and includes a simulcast of The Preakness Stakes, the second leg of the Triple Crown.

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